

5 --10. A process for the preparation of cosmetic or pharmaceutical formulations, wherein copolymers obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

10 A) 50 - 99.9% by weight of an olefinically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-monocarboxylic acid, of an olefinically unsaturated C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-dicarboxylic acid or of its anhydride or a mixture of such carboxylic acids or anhydrides with

15 B) 0.1 - 50% by weight of one or more long-chain compounds with isolated C-C multiple bonds from the group comprising

20 (1) mono- or polyunsaturated C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-monocarboxylic acids which may have additional hydroxyl groups, as well as their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, alkyl esters, amides, sorbitan esters, glycerol esters or polyglycerol esters,

(2) mono- or polyunsaturated aliphatic C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-amines,

25 (3) mono- or polyunsaturated C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alcohols as well as their esters with saturated C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-monocarboxylic acids,

30 (4) C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to 25 alkylene oxide units incorporated, and

(5) terminal or internal C<sub>16</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkenes,

35 C) 0 - 49.9% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and

D) 0 - 10% by weight of one or more compounds with at least two olefinically unsaturated groups in the molecule as crosslinkers,

40 are used as thickeners or dispersants.

11. A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein copolymers are used which are obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

45 A) 75 - 99.45% by weight of carboxylic acid component A,

B) 0.5 - 24.95% by weight of the long-chain compounds with isolated C-C multiple bonds B,

C) 0 - 24.45% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and

D) 0.05 - 5% by weight of the crosslinker component D.

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12. A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein copolymers are used which have been prepared using acrylic acid, methacrylic acid or maleic anhydride as component A.

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13. A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein copolymers are used which have been prepared using as component B one or more long-chain compounds with isolated olefinic double bonds from the group comprising

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(1) mono- to tetraunsaturated C<sub>14</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-monocarboxylic acids as well as their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl esters, glycerol esters or polyglycerol esters,

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(2) mono- to tetraunsaturated aliphatic primary C<sub>14</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-amines,

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(3) mono- to tetraunsaturated primary C<sub>14</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alcohols as well as their esters with saturated C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-monocarboxylic acids,

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(4) C<sub>10</sub>-C<sub>25</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to 10 alkylene oxide units incorporated, and

(5) terminal C<sub>16</sub>-C<sub>24</sub>-alkenes.

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B 14. <sup>composition defined</sup> A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein copolymers are used which have been prepared using as component D allyl ethers of pentaerythritol, trimethylolpropane or sucrose with at least two allyl ether units in the molecule as well as allyl methacrylate, oleyl (meth)acrylate or methylenebisacrylamide.

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B 15. A copolymer <sup>obtained</sup> obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

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A) 50 - 99.9% by weight of an olefinically unsaturated C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>-monocarboxylic acid, of an olefinically unsaturated C<sub>4</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-dicarboxylic acid or of its anhydride or a mixture of such carboxylic acids or anhydrides with

D  
D  
B) 0.1 - 50% by weight of one or more long-chain compounds with isolated C-C multiple bonds <sup>selected</sup> from the group ~~consisting of~~ <sup>comprising</sup>

5 (1) mono- and polyunsaturated C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-monocarboxylic acids which may have additional hydroxyl groups, as well as their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, alkyl esters, amides, sorbitan esters, glycerol esters or polyglycerol esters,

10 (2) mono- and polyunsaturated aliphatic C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-amines,

15 (3) mono- and polyunsaturated C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alcohols as well as their esters with saturated C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-monocarboxylic acids,

B B  
20 (4) ~~C<sub>8</sub>-C<sub>30</sub>-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to 25 alkylene oxide units incorporated,~~

C) 0 - 49.9% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and

25 D) 0 - 10% by weight of one or more compounds with at least two olefinically unsaturated groups in the molecule as crosslinkers.

16. A cosmetic or pharmaceutical preparation obtained by the process claimed in claim 10.--

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